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CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

COUNTRY UBSR

DATE OF

SUBJECT

Economic - Automobile and tractor industry

INFORMATION 1949

HOW

DATE DIST. 30 Dec 1949

PUBLISHED

Semimonthly periodical

WHERE

PUBLISHED Moscow NO. OF PAGES

PUBLISHED Oct 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE Russian REPORT NO.

NY MARKER TO AR UPAUTHOR TED PERSON PRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROXIBITED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Byulleten' VIsSPS, No 20, 1949.

THE WORK OF THE AUTO WORKERS: UNION IS UNSATISFACTORY

Following an investigation, the Presidium of the VTsSPS (All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions) established that although the Ministry of the Automobile and Tractor Industry as a whole has fulfilled the half-year production plan, 13 plants failed to meet the norms in respect to commodity output in the first quarter, and 21 plants in the second quarter. The Ural Automobile Plant, the Lipetsk Tractor Plant, and a number of others are still uneven in their operation, work overtime, and frequently cancel the workers' free days. The Pobeda automobile and the KD-35 tractor show several serious imperfections.

In this connection, the Central Committee of the Automobile and Tractor Workers' Trade Union is blamed for insufficient vigilance and failure to assist the plants in their production problems. Its plant committees are held responsible for the following state of affairs: In the Gor'kiy, Ural and Siberian subsmobile plants, and in the Lipstek Tractor Plant, 25-40 percent of the workers do not participate in individual competition; in the Chkalov "Avtozapaschast" (Automobile Spare Parts) Plant, the monthly competition results are not evaluated; at the Khar'kov Bicycle Plant, mass discussion of results has been replaced by bureaucratic edict.

Working conditions are unsatisfactory in many plants. In some, the system of ventilation is in a state of neglect. In the Ural and Yaroslavi' Automobile plants and in the Khar'kov Tractor Plant, the state of sanitation in some of the largest shops is deplorable. In the Minsk Automobile Plant and in the Khar'kov and Stellingrad Tractor plants, there are gross violations of labor legislation.

Only 32 percent of the Ministry's housing plan for this year was fulfilled during the .irst 8 months.

The incidence of disease increased during the first half of 1949, and 588,000 rubles were disbursed in medical care. This was due to the fact that 700,000 rubles out of 2.5 millions, assigned to the feeding of convalescents, had not been utilized. A contributory factor is the almost total absence of physical culture; only 9 percent of the workers take part in sports.

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It has been established that the Central Committee has not obtained full participation by workers in mass meetings at the plants, has not checked on the implementation of its own decisions, or insured development of self-oriticism within its own ranks.

In view of the above, the Presidium of the VTsSPS considers the work of the Central Committee of the Automobile and the Tractor Workers' Union unsatisfactory, and to charge its presidium and chairman, Blinev, with eliminating the short-comings enumerated within the shortest possible time; a detailed list of measures to that effect is prescribed. In addition, the Presidium calls on Amere, Minister of Automobile and Tractor Industry, to take measures for the full implementation of the 1949 plan. These include administrative pressure on the management of the Bearing Trust to carry out the decision of the VTsSPS concerning housing construction for State Bearing Plants No 3, No 4 and others.

At the same time the Presidium recommends that cultural facilities of the following plants be completed: Ger'kiy Automobile Plant imeni Meletev, Stalingrad and Khar'kov Tractor plants. It also recommends that labor and samitation conditions be thereughly everhauled at the Chelyabinek Press Ferging Plant and the State Bearing Plant No 8, in addition to these mentioned.

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